



SSA Meeting Minutes: May 8, 2019

ATTENDEES

SSA Commissioners present: Saima Causevic, Mark Aistrope, David Maletin, Tom Guagliardo, Stephanie Fishel

Staff present: Alexa Schutz, Thomas Applegate

SSA Commissioners absent: Andrew Levin, Kareeshma Ali

Meeting called to order at 5:42pm by Chair, Mark Aistrope.

Approval of minutes: 1st Fishel, 2nd Causevic; all in favor with the addition that Maletin recused himself from the facade vote for DMS Fit.

Approval of financials: 1st Fishel, 2nd Maletin; all in favor.

Staff will continue to present "dashboarding" to help Commissioners identify and track what needs to be addressed, changed in future, or reviewed in detail.

Facade Improvement Program: applications for approval (rebate amount)

- 3021-23 W. Montrose Ave -- Irving Park Early Learning Center (\$2,500)
 - Applicant seeks to replace windows for increased air circulation for children/staff. This is their third time applying and funds remain before they cap out. Commissioners debated on the competitiveness of app. They would prefer their other office at Montrose/Sacramento to be improved; Schutz will encourage this. Would like to see their other window mock-up/specks before making a decision to review in June.
- 4549-53 N. Kedzie/3149-53 W. Wilson -- mixed use building (\$20k)
 - Applicant seeking improvements to residential components of building including limestone, 2nd floor doors (brick in/add window), junction boxes, lintels, glassblock. Commissioners like the project, yet feel for the highest impact it must include the commercial corner space for Wilson Kedzie Food Mart. However, the landlord is applying, not business tenant. Commissioners request: (1) landlord/applicant speak to tenant on improving window merchandising to de-clutter, (2) Schutz to personally talk with business owner about window display improvements and bring Maletin, (3) Schutz and applicant to get commitment from the tenant on upgrades.

NRC's new staff who will support SSA, Dalia: you'll meet her in June!



2020 Draft Budget (“Final Draft” for 2020 to be approved on June 5):

discussed line-by-line to help guide the final draft which we will review and approve in June. Main services we wish to continue include facade rebate program, snow removal, litter removal, special events, infrastructure for street amenities, banners, public art, landscaping, and media. New projects/pilots include a community grant, bike valet/programming, wayfinding, graphic designer on retainer, and graffiti/tagging rebates.

2 annual reports: (a) 5 years in review and (b) 2019: seeing as we are over half way through the life of the SSA, we will be mailing two SSA reports, one in the summer, the other end of year. This is important as we near SSA reconstitution!

Bike Racks & Landscaping: group discussed pro’s and con’s of using either the city’s free galvanized bike racks or purchase our own colored and powdercoated racks in the SSA. NRC will pursue free racks outside SSA and purchase racks for SSA to add vibrancy to district like our design guidelines/branding seek to accomplish. SSA to purchase racks, but City bike staff to install where we identify, thus we avoid submitting and paying permit renewal/application fees on an annual basis! Group also discussed various styles of planter boxes. Schutz will pursue quotes for small-medium sized concrete planters which are more affordable, durable, and can be painted/stained (if we want). Since our sidewalks are too narrow to support planters mid-block, we will strategically place them at larger “bump-out” sidewalk corners.

Tastes & Tours of Albany Park 2019 recap: SSA’s first time sponsoring T&T (\$4k). Super successful with 275+ participants across the weekend for free, low-cost, or ticketed events across the district. Owner of Tortuga’s Latin Kitchen was on WGN for 6 minute TV food segment! Increased the number and variety of walking tours, added trivia, and fun kickoff party.

Flavors of Albany Park 2019 updates: we may have enough participating restaurants/businesses to have THREE routes this year! Lots of first-timers joining Flavors, many returning. Request for help on promotions and volunteering.

Public Input: none

Meeting concluded at 7:46pm.

Next meeting is Wednesday, June 5 at Meeting Tomorrow, 2901 W. Lawrence